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#### **IRTS 80m Counties Contest**



This contest runs from 1400-1700z (3-6pm local) on New Year's Day Thursday 1st January. There are SSB-Only and mixed SSB/CW sections, for both portable and fixed entrants. All you have to do is work as many

stations as possible (they can be anywhere). Exchange serials and your 3-character county code. The rules and county-code lists are <a href="here">here</a>. Entries should be submitted as Cabrillo logs rather than paper or Excel/Word files. <a href="SD by EI5DI">SD by EI5DI</a> is free, and tracks your points and county multipliers and generates a Cabrillo log. It may be used for logging during the contest, or afterwards in post-contest mode.

## **CQWW Contests 2014**



For the October SSB contest, 22 EIs are listed - EI1A, EI1Y, EI2CN, EI2HEB, EI2II, EI3OT, EI3ENB, EI3GRB, EI4GAB, EI4GNB, EI4GZB, EI4HQ, EI4II,

EI4KH, EI4KI, EI6JK, EI7CC, EI7JZ, EI7M, EI9E, EI9HX. CQ's <u>Raw Scores</u> (unchecked) indicate EI9HX could be world-first in Single-Op 80m Low-Power Assisted, EI1A (ON4EI) world-fourth in Single-Op Low-Power (all bands), and EI7M world-seventh in the Multi-Single category.

In the November CW event, there were 20 EI entries - EI1Y, EI2CN, EI2KA. EI2KK, EI30T,

EI3DP, EI3KI, EI4BZ, EI4HQ, EI4II, EI4JZ, EI5DI, EI5IX, EI5KF, EI6IZ, EI6JK, EI7CC, EI7IG, EI8HL, EI8JX. The <u>Raw Scores</u> indicate that, subject to final checking, EI5DI could be world-fourth in the 80m Single-Op High-Power Unassisted section.

## Shannon Basin AGM



The Shannon Basin Radio Club is holding its 2015 AGM in Hannons Hotel, Roscommon at 20:30 on Friday 16th January. As there is a full agenda, all members are requested to attend, and anyone wishing to join the club is very welcome. For further information please see <a href="mailto:shannonbasinradioclub.com">shannonbasinradioclub.com</a> or contact Brian EI8IU on 086 105 7325.

## **2m Activity Nights**

Fingal Radio Club EI2FRC and Dermot EI2HD, are trying to get some life back into the 2m band. They intend to have a call in each Wednesday evening from 7th January, starting at 7.30pm. The suggested frequency is 145.525 and they hope other clubs might take up the mantle on other nights. Up to some years ago life on 2m was extremely busy night after night and it would be great to have it back again perhaps even getting some of the old-timers back on air.

#### Adelaide Island - VP8ROT



VP8ROT is the callsign for Rothera Research Station, located on Adelaide Island - IOTA Reference AN-001. Danny McFadden, EI8JU, is the new Winter Comms Manager for the base and will be there for the next year or so. He is keen to operate when time allows, which is more likely to be towards the end of the season and over the winter months. Danny also has the call VP8DOU, which he may also use whilst down south.

#### **Dominica**



Well-known contester and DXer Dan EI3JZ will be active from the Caribbean island of Dominica until April using the callsign J79MM. QSL via EI4JY (EI stations need only send an SAE). Dan

looks forward to putting you all in his log.

#### WebSDR

Ever wondered what your signal sounds like to a remote station or what band conditions are like in some DX location? Now you can do this with WebSDR - a Software-Defined Radio receiver connected to the internet. A list of receivers, their locations and antennas is available at <a href="https://www.websdr.org">www.websdr.org</a>.

#### **New Year Resolutions**

- 1. **Learn CW**. Just as knowing the alphabet doesn't mean you can read, it's not enough to know and recognise individual letters. Get on the air and practice. No one gets good at anything without practice and, with CW, it must be on-air practice. There are only two modes that we can decode without computers phone and CW. If you don't know CW you're missing 50% of the fun.
- 2. **Learn about Tesla**. Forget Edison he managed a research laboratory with hundreds of engineers and scientists (a bit like Dyson today) and took credit for all their inventions. It's no coincidence that the world's best electric cars are named after Tesla. Book: Tesla Inventor of the Electrical Age.
- 3. **Get yourself a HF beam** and wonder why you didn't do it years ago.

#### Members' Ads

**Wanted:** Trio/Kenwood R-1000 or R-600 gen coverage receiver, in good condition.

Pat EI6HF, 085 764 0044

**Wanted:** 30 foot antenna tower, guyed or self-supporting - in sections for collection.

Michael EI2JM, 087 258 9521

# **Contests - January 2015**

### WA7BNM Contest Calendar: RSGB HF Contests: IRTS Contests

**01** 1400z, 3 hours – IRTS 80m Counties: SSB/CW: Exchange Serial & County Code

11 1400z, 4 hours – RSGB AFS: CW: 3510-3560kHz, work UK only, exchange Serials

17 1200z, 48 hours - Hungarian DX: CW/SSB: work everyone, exchange Serials, or County Code from HA

17 1400z, 4 hours - RSGB AFS: SSB: 80-40m, work UK only, exchange Serials

24 0600z, 36 hours - REF Contest: CW: 80-10m, work France & French territories - send Serial

31 1300z, 24 hours – UBA DX Contest: SSB: 80-10m, work everyone, exch Serials, dist. code from ON

Every Wednesday - CWops Mini Contests: CW: three separate 60-minute contests

SD by EI5DI – free logging software for CW & SSB contests from ei5di.com